

a world away. I urge my colleagues to vote against new spending and “no” for taxpayer-sponsored abortions.

TWEETSIE RAILROAD 50TH ANNIVERSARY—JUNE 21, 2007

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Tweetsie Railroad, a western North Carolina fixture that has been providing fun and excitement to families for the past five decades.

Tweetsie Railroad, founded in 1957, was North Carolina's first-ever amusement park. Nestled in the mountains of Blowing Rock, North Carolina, it is home to the classic steam locomotive Tweetsie 12.

Tweetsie's historic lineage runs deep. This steam engine is the last remaining locomotive that ran a rail line connecting Boone, North Carolina, to Johnson City, Tennessee, through the rugged Appalachians.

The Wild West theme of the park permeates every aspect of the family entertainment that draws families from all over. Tweetsie Railroad is in a category of its own, situated in a beautiful mountain setting.

Away from the noise and rush of everyday life, this North Carolina fixture offers an escape from the worries of today with a glimpse of a bygone era. This retreat of family entertainment is part of a great American tradition, and I wish it many more years of delighting families with wholesome fun.

□ 1015

JOHN EDWARD DEAN

(Mr. GOHMERT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of John Edward Dean's 90th birthday. John Edward Dean was born June 18, 1917 in Upshur County, Texas. He grew up in my district, in the town of Gilmer, where he attended Gilmer public schools and graduated from Gilmer High School in 1937. Mr. Dean would often ride horseback to school, and by the age of 15, he was hauling cattle to the Fort Worth stockyards to help provide for his younger siblings.

In 1945 he purchased Snider's sawmill in Gilmer, where the company will turn 70 next year.

John Dean is an American patriot, a servant who so many of us in east Texas have come to respect. He never missed a day of work or church due to an illness, and was never even hospitalized until age 70.

John and the love of his life, the late Jane Holmes, have 3 children, 7 grandchildren, 8 great grandchildren, and has given generously to the Gilmer community. His lumber company is one of Gilmer's largest employers, and was a pioneer in diversity.

He serves as a deacon at First Baptist Church of Gilmer, is a 20-year member of the East Texas Baptist University Board of Trustees in Marshall.

I stand here today to wish John Edward Dean a happy birthday, Mr. Speaker, and to pray that God may continue to bless him and his family for being such a blessing to so many others.

THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, FOREIGN OPERATIONS AND RELATED PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2008

Mr. SIREs. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that, during further consideration of H.R. 2764 pursuant to House Resolution 498, the Chair may reduce to 2 minutes the minimum time for electronic voting under clause 6 of rule XVIII and clauses 8 and 9 of rule XX.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PERLMUTTER). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 498 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 2764.

□ 1017

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill (H.R. 2764) making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes, with Mr. HOLDEN (Acting Chairman) in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. When the Committee of the Whole rose on Wednesday, June 20, 2007, all time for general debate had expired.

Pursuant to the rule, the bill shall be considered for amendment under the 5-minute rule.

Pursuant to the order of the House on that day, no amendment to the bill may be offered except those specified in the previous order of the House of that day, which is at the desk.

The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 2764

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the following sums are appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes, namely:

TITLE I

**DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND RELATED
AGENCIES**

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

**ADMINISTRATION OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR PROGRAMS
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)**

For necessary expenses of the Department of State and the Foreign Service not otherwise provided for, including employment, without regard to civil service and classification laws, of persons on a temporary basis (not to exceed \$700,000 of this appropriation), as authorized by section 801 of the United States Information and Educational Exchange Act of 1948; representation to certain international organizations in which the United States participates pursuant to treaties ratified pursuant to the advice and consent of the Senate or specific Acts of Congress; arms control, nonproliferation and disarmament activities as authorized; acquisition by exchange or purchase of passenger motor vehicles as authorized by law; and for expenses of general administration, \$3,820,018,000: *Provided*, That of the amount made available under this heading, not to exceed \$10,000,000 may be transferred to, and merged with, funds in the “Emergencies in the Diplomatic and Consular Service” appropriations account, to be available only for emergency evacuations and terrorism rewards: *Provided further*, That of the amount made available under this heading, not less than \$363,905,000 shall be available only for public diplomacy international information programs: *Provided further*, That of the amount appropriated under this heading, \$5,000,000 shall be available for the Secretary to establish and operate a public/private interagency public diplomacy center which shall serve as a program integration and coordination entity for United States public diplomacy programs: *Provided further*, That of the amounts appropriated under this heading, \$4,000,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for compensation to the families of members of the Foreign Service or other United States Government employees or their dependents, who were killed in terrorist attacks since 1979: *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available for compensation in the previous proviso may be obligated without specific authorization in a subsequent Act of Congress: *Provided further*, That of the amount made available under this heading, \$3,000,000 shall be available only for the operations of the Office on Right-Sizing the United States Government Overseas Presence: *Provided further*, That not less than \$5,000,000 shall be for the Program for Research and Training on Eastern Europe and the Independent States of the Former Soviet Union (title VIII) as authorized by the Soviet-Eastern European Research and Training Act of 1983 (22 U.S.C. 4501–4508, as amended): *Provided further*, That funds available under this heading may be available for a United States Government interagency task force to examine, coordinate and oversee United States participation in the United Nations headquarters renovation project: *Provided further*, That no funds may be obligated or expended for processing licenses for the export of satellites of United States origin (including commercial satellites and satellite components) to the People's Republic of China unless, at least 15 days in advance, the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate are notified of such proposed action: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated under this heading are available, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1108(g), for the field examination of programs and activities in the United States funded from any account contained in this title.